

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

WIPO

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Applicant's or agent's file reference AJM:U:FP18694	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).
International Application No. PCT/AU2003/001429	International Filing Date (day/month/year) 29 October 2003	Priority Date (day/month/year) 30 October 2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ G01N 13/10, G12B 21/02, 21/20		
Applicant OPTISCAN PTY LTD et al		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 1 sheet(s).

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report
II	<input type="checkbox"/> Priority
III	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
IV	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention
V	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
VI	<input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited
VII	<input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application
VIII	<input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 30 April 2004	Date of completion of the report 17 January 2005
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer RAJEEV DESHMUKH Telephone No. (02) 6283 2145

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2003/001429

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*
 - the international application as originally filed.
 - the description, pages 1–28, as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
 - the claims, pages 29–33, 35–36, as originally filed,
pages , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages 34, received on 11 January 2005 with the letter of 11 January 2005
 - the drawings, pages 1/10–10/10, as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
 - the sequence listing part of the description:
pages , as originally filed
pages , filed with the demand
pages , received on with the letter of
2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:
 - the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 - the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 - the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).
3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:
 - contained in the international application in written form.
 - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 - The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 - The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished
4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/fig.
5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2003/001429

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-44	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-44	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-44	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

US 6,294,775 B (SEIBEL et al) 25 September 2001—Col. 8, lines 8-34; col. 12, lines 20-41; col. 17, lines 5-10;
Figs 2, 7, 8

WO 2000/023840 A (THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE LELAND STANFORD JUNIOR UNIVERSITY)
27 April 2000

DE 19 822 869 A (CARL ZEISS JENA GMBH) 25 November 1999

NOVELTY (N), INVENTIVE STEP (IS) CLAIMS 1-44

None of the cited documents discloses or (individually or in an obvious combination) suggests the invention as claimed in claims 1-44 wherein—as illustrated in figures 1A to 1C—an initial elliptical trace is followed by subsequent elliptical traces of increasingly higher eccentricity until an almost line trace is produced, after which the eccentricity is again progressively reduced until the initial trace is reproduced. The closest prior art is SEIBEL which discloses an ellipse that is progressively shrunk in order to fill in its area. Therefore the claimed invention is novel; involves an inventive step, and is industrially applicable.